

# PRIVACY PLEASE!

## PROTECTING YOUR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:

- Check your monthly credit or bank statement for charges you do not recognize.
- Call your credit card company immediately to report any suspicious activity.
  - Equifax: 1-800-525-6285; [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)
  - Experian: 1-888-EXPERIAN (397-3742); [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)
  - TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289; [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)
- Request sales receipts when you pay with a credit card, to ensure that it is properly destroyed.
  - Not all merchants choose to truncate your card numbers, (e.g., \*\*\*\* \* 1234), this will help prevent your credit card number from being stolen.
- Shred credit card receipts, bills, and other sensitive documents before throwing them in the garbage.
- Read membership agreements fully before signing up for store discount cards, and speak to a member of the store's customer service team if you have questions about their privacy policies.

## PROTECTING YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN ONLINE:

- Password-protect your personal computer (PC) screen saver so that only you can unlock it.
- You have the authority to manage your child's personal information, whether it be to provide it to a third party or request that it be removed from any location. Websites and other third party solicitors must always receive your consent before collecting, using, or distributing your child's personal information.
- Ensure your children know that they should NEVER:
  - Give out personal information (name, address, phone, school name)
  - Meet anyone from online without your permission
  - Open emails from unknown senders
  - Share their photo with strangers over the internet; shared photos are an easy way for a predator to find a child or modify your child's image for pornographic use
- Learn how filtering and monitoring software can assist in protecting your children online (check with your internet service provider to find out if filtering or monitoring is available for free with your provider).

## GENERAL PROTECTION TIPS:

- Contact organizations sending catalogs you would no longer like to receive, and ask to be taken off mailing lists.
  - You can remove your name from most national mailing lists by contacting the Direct Marketing Association at [www.dmaconsumers.org/offmailinglist.html#how](http://www.dmaconsumers.org/offmailinglist.html#how).
- Payment envelopes sent from your mailbox are a sitting duck for identity theft; when possible, drop your mail in a United States Post Office collection box.
- Be sure to shred any junk mail or other items you may receive with your name and address on it.